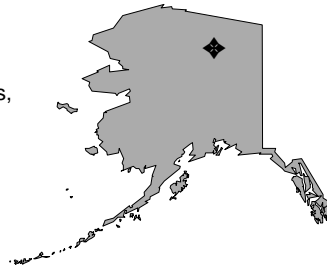


Size: 917,993 acres
Mission: House the Headquarters of the 6th Light Infantry Division
HRS Score: 50.00; placed on NPL in August 1990
IAG Status: Federal Facility Agreement signed in November 1991
Contaminants: Petroleum/oil/lubricants, heavy metals, solvents, pesticides, paints, UXO, ordnance compounds, and chemical agents
Media Affected: Groundwater and soil
Funding to Date: \$92.1 million
Estimated Cost to Completion (Completion Year): \$32.9 million (FY2017)
Final Remedy in Place or Response Complete Date for All Sites: FY2003



Fairbanks, Alaska

Restoration Background

Since World War II, Fort Wainwright has housed light infantry brigades, most recently the 1st Brigade, 6th Infantry Division (Light).

Environmental studies at the installation identified the following site types: a chemical agent dump, drum burial sites, underground storage tanks, a railroad car off-loading facility, an open burning and open detonation area, a former ordnance disposal site, solvent groundwater plumes, petroleum/oil/lubricant (POL) plumes, and pesticide-contaminated soil. The installation divided the sites into five operable units (OUs). In FY90, the installation established a technical review committee.

The Army conducted two Interim Actions in FY93 and FY94 to remove drums and contaminated soil. In FY93, the installation completed Site Inspections at 30 sites, 15 of which required no further action. In FY94 and FY95, the installation continued Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) activities, which included characterization of POL and solvent groundwater plumes and fieldwork for several areas and a former landfill. The chemical agent dump site was addressed separately under an interim Record of Decision (ROD).

In FY96, the Army and regulators signed RODs for groundwater contamination in OU3 and soil and groundwater contamination in OU4. The OU4 remedy specifies natural attenuation of groundwater contamination, capping of the landfill, and in situ treatment of coal storage lot soil and air sparging of associated groundwater. Remedial Design (RD) began for all sites addressed under those RODs, and some OU3 Remedial Action (RA) construction was completed. The Army completed the fire training pits (OU4) Removal Action in FY96 and closed the site.

Sampling at hot spots at the railroad off-loading facility (OU3) showed decreasing levels of contamination. At breaks in the pipeline from Fairbanks to Eielson Air Force Base (also OU3), treatment included injection of oxygen-releasing compounds to enhance in situ biodegradation of benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene, and xylene compounds in the groundwater.

In FY97, the installation completed the FS, Proposed Plan, and ROD for OU1. The Army and regulators signed the ROD for OU2, and the installation initiated RD. The OU4 RD was completed. The installation completed the draft FS and initiated Treatability Studies (TSs), including installation of a horizontal well, for OU5. A postwide risk assessment was incorporated into the FS for OU5.

The Army completed a pipeline study for OU3 and OU5, initiated a TS at OU5, and installed horizontal air-sparging/soil vapor extraction technology. The commander formed a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The Army, EPA, and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation met to review and write documents.

FY98 Restoration Progress

RA construction and operations continued at OU1 and OU2. OU4 reached construction complete status in September. At OU3, systems were expanded to address additional contamination. At OU5, the installation began TSs, including soil heating to enhance biodegradation; tracer studies to further delineate contamination movement; and installation of an air-sparging curtain to protect the Chena River from contamination. Removal of an old retaining structure at OU5 resulted in removal and treatment of 650 cubic yards of contaminated soil and 1,700 gallons of product.

The Army met with members of churches near OU3 and continues to provide bottled water to the churches. The ROD for OU5 is in the

final draft stages. Excellent teaming relationships with the regulators and coordination efforts to rewrite the OU5 ROD have expedited the review of this comprehensive, final ROD. The Chena River Aquatic Assessment Program, which will help determine whether operations on Fort Wainwright have affected ecological receptors in the river, continued.

RAB participation continues to grow. Quarterly fact sheets were distributed to interested community members, and interested RAB members received tours of the restoration sites. The installation also held a public meeting on the Proposed Plan for OU5.

Plan of Action

- Complete OU5 ROD and RD in FY99
- Continue quarterly RAB meetings and distribution of fact sheets in FY99
- Continue Chena River Aquatic Assessment Program on a reduced schedule in FY99
- Continue remediating petroleum-contaminated sites under state agreement in FY99
- Work toward construction complete status at OU1 and OU2 in FY99
- Continue to provide bottled water to neighboring churches in FY99

FY99 FUNDING BY PHASE AND RELATIVE RISK

